GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:927
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2008
EXPORT TARGET
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Murmu Shri Hemlal;Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash;Yadav Shri Anirudh Prasad (Sadhu);Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has set an export target of 160 billion for the current fiscal year;

(b) if so, the details alongwith the target achieved till date;

(c) whether the rise in the rupee against the dollar has affected the exports and imports of food items;

(d) if so, the details of the likely impact on the export sector, industry-wise; and

(e) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to achieve the target during the current fiscal year?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exports reached a level of US $ 124.2 billion during April-January 2007-08, achieving 77.6 per cent of the target set for the year.

(c) Exports and Imports of goods and services, apart from changes in exchange rates,are influenced by variety of factors including nature of commodities, their international prices, domestic capacity, input prices etc.These factors have influenced export and import of traded commodities including food items.

(d) As per the preliminary estimates, during 2007-08 (April- January), there was a negative growth in export of a number of items including RMG (Cotton incl. accessories); Primary & Semi- finished Iron & Steel; Plastic & Linoleum; Non-ferrous Metals; Marine Products; Sports Goods; Handicrafts; Carpets, etc. Most of these commodities have low import intensity and are produced in the small scale sector.

(e) Steps taken to achieve targets include export promotion initiatives such as the implementation of the Focus Product Scheme, Focus Market Scheme, Vishesh Krishi and Gram Udyog Yojana, Duty Entitlement Passbook Scheme, Export Promotion Capital Goods Scheme etc. Apart from this,special package have also been announced during 2007-08 in respect of export items adversely affected by the appreciation of Rupee.